

Senate Resolution 1032

By: Senators Hill of the 32nd, Smith of the 52nd, Stoner of the 6th, Rogers of the 21st, Wiles of the 37th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Bobby Cox; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Bobby Cox has recently expressed his intention to retire after the 2010 baseball
3 season; and

4 WHEREAS, his outstanding leadership, skill, wisdom, and abilities have made him one of
5 the best managers in the history of baseball; and

6 WHEREAS, we have been fortunate in the City of Atlanta and the State of Georgia to have
7 been able to benefit from his remarkable talents in managing the Atlanta Braves and turning
8 the Braves franchise into one of the most successful teams of the past 20 years; and

9 WHEREAS, Robert Joseph "Bobby" Cox was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma, on May 21, 1941,
10 and

11 WHEREAS, after the end of his major league playing career in 1969, Bobby Cox began his
12 managerial career in 1971 with the farm system of the New York Yankees where he
13 compiled a highly successful record of 459 wins and 387 losses in six years and took the
14 Syracuse Chiefs to the Governor's Cup title in 1976; and

15 WHEREAS, he spent the 1977 season as the first base coach for the New York Yankees,
16 who won the World Series that year under manager Billy Martin; and

17 WHEREAS, in 1978, he replaced Dave Bristol as manager of the Atlanta Braves, taking over
18 a Braves team that had finished in last place in the preceding two years, and took the team
19 to an 81-80 record in 1980; and

20 WHEREAS, in the strike-shortened 1981 season, the Braves finished in fifth place and
21 Braves owner Ted Turner fired him; and, when asked by the media who was on his short list

22 to replace Bobby Cox, Turner replied, "It would be Bobby Cox if I hadn't just fired him. We
23 need someone like him around here."; and

24 WHEREAS, the next season, Bobby Cox joined the Toronto Blue Jays as their manager and
25 again took over a team that had finished in last place for several years and took the team to
26 a fifth-place finish with a 78-84 record; and

27 WHEREAS, he followed the success of the 1982 season by leading the Blue Jays to their
28 first winning seasons in 1983 and 1984 before winning the American League East division
29 title in 1985; and

30 WHEREAS, in 1986, he returned to the Braves as their general manager and, in the middle
31 of the 1990 season, to correct slumping team performance and attendance, he again took over
32 as the manager; and

33 WHEREAS, after finishing in last place in 1990, he led the Braves to a first-place finish in
34 1991 and a World Series appearance; and

35 WHEREAS, he followed the success of the 1991 season with a string of 14 consecutive
36 division titles and five World Series appearances, winning the 1995 World Series; and

37 WHEREAS, he enters the 2010 campaign with a career record as a manager of 2,413 wins
38 and 1,930 losses for a .556 winning percentage and fourth place in the Major League all-time
39 managerial win list; and

40 WHEREAS, he has been named the Manager of the Year four times and is the winningest
41 manager in the history of the Braves organization; and

42 WHEREAS, he has garnered the respect and admiration of players, coaches, and baseball
43 fans everywhere; and

44 WHEREAS, the Atlanta Braves dugout will never be the same without Number 6 on the
45 bench shouting encouragement to his players and guiding the team with his steady hand; and

46 WHEREAS, it is altogether fitting and proper to honor this outstanding individual and
47 express to him how grateful we are for all that he has done for the Atlanta Braves and
48 baseball fans everywhere.

49 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
50 recognize and congratulate Bobby Cox for a marvelous and remarkable career in America's
51 pasttime, express their appreciation for all that he has accomplished with the Atlanta Braves
52 over the past 20 years, and extend to him best wishes for continued success.

53 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
54 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Bobby Cox.